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26 MAR 1965

The Honorable Cyrus R. Vance
Deputy Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Following the decision to take the necessary logistical steps which would subsequently permit a policy decision to deploy an OXCART detachment to the Far East and our telephone conversation on its implications, I asked Colonel Ledford to brief you on the CIA operational plan for establishing such a capability.

Colonel Ledford will now proceed to forward a request to Dr. McMillan for supplemental NRO funding of the appropriate construction and facilities; he has also been in touch with Colonel Geary for Air Force logistic support to the operation, in line with the original agreement between CIA and the Air Force establishing the OXCART program.

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While we have selected Okinawa for the home base for an initial operational capability, if an operational phase is reached, there are other bases which we propose to use as recovery and support fields:

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Accordingly, it is planned that Colonel Geary, USAF, and Mr. Cunningham, of this Agency, with appropriate specialists, will visit these sites at the earliest opportunity. They will also be calling on General McConnell and the PACAF commander in whose area the potential operations will be

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conducted. A comprehensive briefing for you and anyone else you may designate will be available upon their return.

Faithfully yours,

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy Director

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